



Volume 24

An ARCEC Monthly Publication

January 2015

Counterpoise Editor - Sue Robins AF6LJ

January Meeting Yagi Rebuild

By Pat Bunsold Edited By Sue Robins AF6LJ

We had an extremely unique Program for the January meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of EL Cajon. Most meetings are PowerPoint programs on various Ham topics such as DXpeditions, Operating activities, Special interest areas, and Public Service, but last night we had an actual hands on program where each club member could actually participate in the event rather than just watch it.

Our New club President Dave KD6DW proposed we completely overhaul the club antenna we use for Field Day and other events. The antenna in question is a really trashed Hy-Gain TH3JR (made back in the 60's I presume). All the hardware was rusted up and the Driven element insulators cracked out. The Beta matching network was replaced with a home made one that had seen better days. The elements were more or less duct taped on. The SWR was just Terrible, it was high time we upgraded this antenna to modern standards.

Dave ordered all the parts we needed from Hy-Gain, (MFJ) and brought the antenna into the meeting. I stopped at Home Depot and bought a bottle of Noalox and a roll of emery cloth. I also appropriated my work Dremel tool, which would prove to be quite useful. Here I am sanding down the element end with the Emery cloth to which the Noalox will be added.



Dave and our Vice President Peter KJ6VCM scored all new stainless steel hardware to replace the rusted up bolts and nuts. Here Dave is working on the boom brackets.





Many new members got to help out and work on the antenna. We had to use the Dremel tool with a cutoff wheel to cut off the rusted up bolts. Work continued furiously to try and get as much done as possible before the end of the meeting. It soon became evident we weren't going to get finished by the meeting end time, which was firm at 9 PM..

Our Church meeting location demands we are to be gone and all locked up by 9 PM.

A great deal of progress was made, still much work ahead of us. In the end we will have a nearly new antenna, that should last for years to come.

Annual Awards

Sue Robins AF6LJ Pictures by Jack Moran N6FUG

Every year The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon honors members who have made contributions to the club in many forms not, limited to any specific set of standards, but have in the eyes of the membership demonstrated dedication to the club, and / or admirably preformed in leadership positions. Two categories are designated for special recognition. When the position of President changes hands, the past President receives recognition for his / her leadership and dedication to the club. The past President receives a plaque that acknowledges the contribution made by that person for the time they served as president.



ARCEC Repeater Frequencies

| 2 Meter Repeater | 220 MHZ Repeater | 440 MHZ Repeater |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| TX 146.475 | TX 222.480 | TX 440.900 |
| RX 147.420 | RX 224.080 | RX 445.900 |
| Offset .945 | Offset 1.6 | Offset 5.00 |
| PL 107.2 | PL 107.2 | PL 107.2 |

The Ham of the Year Award goes to the club member who has demonstrated dedication to the club, and the hobby. These awards are presented to those individuals at the January meeting. This year Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ received the Past President plaque for his years of leadership as President of The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Sue Robins AF6LJ club secretary and Counterpoise editor received the Ham of the Year plaque for her contributions to ARCEC. President Dave Ward WD6DW presented the awards below.



Club Membership & Dues

Club membership and dues can now be paid online. The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon website wa6bgs.us. The link is at the top of the page, just follow the instructions on the Join / Renew page.

Next Month's Meeting

February's meeting will bring us some new board members. The presentation will be by Dave Ward KD6DW, on his trip to Quartzsite Arizona for the Quartzsite Hamfest. Hope to see you there, as this should be a interesting presentation for any of us who have not been to the Quartzsite Hamfest.

The San Diego Morse Code Practice Group

Mark Wardwell KB6PJU has been running a code practice group on the WA6BGS VHF and UHF repeaters. The repeaters are linked to accommodate the needs and accessibility of all who wish to participate. The code practice Group meets at 7:00 PM Pacific time on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Club Shirts & Jackets

We have 2013 club shirts and jackets available at meetings. Shirts are available sizes from small to XX large, this year's shirt has a pocket and as usual is green in color with the club logo in white. The cost is \$12.00 each. You can get a 2013 Field Day shirt or the standard club shirt, both styles of shirts have the club logo on the back and the left side.

Jackets are also available in sizes ranging from Medium to XX large. These are of the lined windbreaker style, with side pockets and they snap down the front. The cost is \$24.00 each.

We also have a number of shirts from 2012, these shirts are identical to the 2013 shirts without the pocket, and they are available in both the standard club shirt and the 2012 Field Day shirt. Sizes are limited to stock on hand.

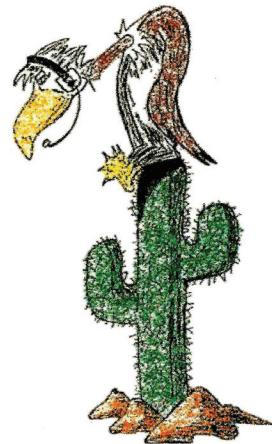
2015 Arizona Section Convention

Yuma Hamfest

Yuma, Arizona

Feb. 20 & 21, 2015

Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona



www.yumahamfest.org

Check the Website for Additional Information

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Gates Open for Camping Thursday, 2 pm | Event Hours Friday, Noon - 5 pm Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm | Hamfest Dinner & Grand Prize Drawing Saturday Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm |
|--|---|---|

Vendors & Exhibitors
Consignment Sales
License Testing
Hourly Door Prizes
On-site RV Camping
Hamfest Dinner
ARRL Speaker
Transmitter Hunt
\$5.00 Admission

Tailgating (Swap Meet)
Full Seminar Schedule
DXCC Card Checking
Incredible Grand Prizes
Emergency Preparedness
Admission Prize
Hospitality Area
Near Space Balloon Launch
Antenna Clinic

Hamfest Talk-In Frequency: 146.840 (–) PL 88.5 Hz

Email Contact: info@yumahamfest.org



We are proud to have the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona (ARCA) as a sponsor of our event.

The Yuma Hamfest is an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sanctioned event.



Presented by the Yuma Amateur Radio Hamfest Organization



The **AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF EL CAJON^{Inc.}**
WA6BGS
Founded 1960 ~ Incorporated 1976

Post Office Box Fifty, El Cajon California 92022

Please fill out this form and then see options at bottom for submitting to the club

Date of application: ____ / ____ / ____

Amount Paid: \$ _____ Cash Check Check # _____

Membership Type: Individual (\$20/year) Family* (\$35/year)

Membership Status: New Renewal Returning Member

Call Sign First Name _____ Last Name _____

If a previous member, what was your WAMO number?

ARRL Member: Yes No

License Class: Technician General Extra Other

Email Address (required) _____

Phone Number (optional) _____

*Use another sheet of paper to add Family members and please include the following information:

First Name, Last Name, Call Sign (if any), License Class, Wamo Number (if any), & Email Address.

Submitting this form:

To submit this form, you can mail it to:

**Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022**

-OR-

Bring it to the next club meeting on the second Thursday of each month. You can find the date and location by getting online at www.wa6bgs.us which is the club website. Check it out for the most current information regarding the club.

Cash Payments - Get a receipt from the Club Treasurer. Please make all checks payable to AMATEUR RADIO CLUB of EL CAJON, Incorporated. Receipts for payments by check will be sent by email or regular mail by the Club Treasurer.

Members with an FCC Call Sign are full members with voting privileges. Members without an FCC Call Sign are Associate members without voting privileges.

YOUR DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE: Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc. Is a 501 C 7 Corporation. Donations are NOT tax deductible.

Email address and phone number are to allow club officers to contact members regarding club business and information of interest.